PROVIDING VISUAL CONTEXT
FOR A MOBILE ACTIVE VISUAL DISPLAY OF A PANORAMIC REGION

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5 ABSTRACT

A visual display of a panoramic region is provided in which a static context display is provided for an active display displayed in a mobile display window. Active images are sequentially generated and displayed from temporally

10 sequential frames of visual data that each represent an image defining a region within a larger panoramic region such that at least two of the images define regions that do not coincide. Each displayed image is positioned on a display screen with respect to the position of other displayed images

15 on the display screen in accordance with the spatial relationship in the panoramic region of the content of the displayed image to the content of the other displayed images. At some time during the visual display, one or more context images (a context display) is displayed while an active image

20 is displayed. Each context image is at least part of an image represented by a frame of the set of temporally sequential frames of visual data. Context images can be automatically displayed in a predetermined manner. For example, after each image is displayed as the active image,

25 the image can be retained, in whole or in part, on the display screen as a context image, i.e., the active image leaves a trail of context images. Images can also be designated as context images by a user. In particular, as active images are displayed, the user can designate

30 particular active images as context images.